

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

SAJ-01 /058 R

DRAFTED BY EA/ROC:BLEVIN:BDS

APPROVED BY EA:WHGLEESTEEN,JR.

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R 171549Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 221276

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TW, CH

SUBJECT:ROC EMBASSY OFFICIAL ASKS ABOUT US CHINA POLICY

1. IN SEPTEMBER 11 CALL ON GLEYSTEEEN, ROC EMBASSY DCM CHEN TAI-CHU EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR US SUPPORT OF CONTINUED ROC MEMBERSHIP IN IMF/IBRD AT RECENTLY CONCLUDED ANNUAL MEETINGS. GLEYSTEEEN ACKNOWLEDGED THANKS, BUT NOTED CONTINUED ROC MEMBERSHIP IN THESE INSTITUTIONS WAS IN EFFECT AT SUFFERANCE OF PRC. SHOULD THE PRC MOUNT A CONCERTED EFFORT TO OUST THE ROC, IT WOULD MOST LIKELY SUCCEED. CHEN SAID THAT THE ROC BELIEVED IT WOULD ENCOUNTER SERIOUS PROBLEMS AT NEXT YEAR'S MEETINGS AS THEY WOULD BE CHAIRED BY A SYRIAN AND HELD AT MANILA.

2. CHEN ASKED ABOUT THE TIMING OF THE PRESIDENT'S FORTHCOMING VISIT TO THE PRC, WHETHER THE SECRETARY WOULD UNDERTAKE A PREPARATORY VISIT TO THE PRC AND ABOUT THE LIKELY OUTCOME OF THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT. GLEYSTEEEN
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REPLIED: (1) WHILE THE EXACT DATES HAVE NOT YET BEEN SET,

THE EXPECTATION IS THAT THE VISIT WILL TAKE PLACE AROUND LATE NOVEMBER OR EARLY DECEMBER; (2) A PREPARATORY VISIT BY THE SECRETARY COULD NOT BE RULED OUT; (3) ONE COULD NOT NOW BE SPECIFIC ABOUT THE POSSIBLE OUTCOME OF THE VISIT. AS THE PRESIDENT RECENTLY REMARKED IN SEATTLE,

WE VIEW THE VISIT AS A MEANS OF ADVANCING NORMALIZATION AND MAINTAINING HIGH LEVEL CONTACT WITH THE PRC.

3. CHEN ASKED ABOUT LAIRD'S RECENT REFERENCE IN TAIPEI TO PEKING'S ABANDONMENT OF THREE PRE-CONDITIONS FOR THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT. GLEYSTEN REPLIED THAT EITHER LAIRD OR PRESS ACCOUNTS OF HIS REMARKS SEEMED TO HAVE CONFUSED PEKING'S PUBLICLY STATED PRE-CONDITIONS FOR DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE QUESTION OF THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT. AS WE HAVE INFORMED THE ROC ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, FROM THE BEGINNING THERE HAVE BEEN NO PRE-CONDITIONS FOR THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT.

4. IN THE CONTEXT OF A DISCUSSION ABOUT EVENTS WITHIN CHINA, GLEYSTEN MENTIONED OUR DOUBTS ABOUT THE AUTHENTICITY OF ROC RELEASED VERSIONS OF CHIANG CHING AND CHIAO KUAN-HUA SPEECHES. CHEN REFERRED TO EARLIER DOCUMENTARY SCOOPS BY ROC INTELLIGENCE WHICH HE ALLEGED WERE SUBSEQUENTLY VERIFIED AND GAVE ASSURANCES AS TO THE AUTHENTICITY OF THE CHIANG AND CHIAO SPEECHES. HE ASSERTED THAT THE ROC WOULD NOT RISK ITS CREDIBILITY BY FABRICATING DOCUMENTS. THERE WERE TOO MANY EXPERTS AROUND TO TAKE SUCH A RISK. GLEYSTEN REITERATED HIS PERSONAL SKEPTICISM ABOUT THE AUTHENTICITY OF AT LEAST SOME PORTIONS OF THE CHIANG AND CHIAO SPEECHES. HE ENDORSED CHEN'S OBSERVATION THAT FABRICATION OF DOCUMENTS WOULD DAMAGE THE ROC'S CREDIBILITY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE221276
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: BLEVIN:BDS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750323-0325
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750943/aaaablue.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <14 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OC EMBASSY OFFICIAL ASKS ABOUT US CHINA POLICY
TAGS: PFOR, TW, CH, (CHEN TAI-CHU)
To: TAIPEI
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006